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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:

1. This memorandum is for information only.

2. We are receiving many inquiries as to when Mr. Bissell came to the Agency and when he became DD/P. As you know, there are reports that some alleged White House leaks picture Mr. Bissell as the head of a new agency that will handle para-military, subversion and espionage activities. The latest call today was from Frank Kluckhohn of the Republican National Committee. Kluckhohn wanted to know if Bissell is a Democrat since his political affiliation is not listed in WHO'S WHO. He was told that we do not have such information and do not seek to know the political affiliation of people in the CIA. We told him that Bissell came to the Agency in 1954 and became a deputy director in 1959.

3. NEW SUBJECT: Calls continue to come requesting clarification or interpretation of your remarks of yesterday. I decline in all cases to try to interpret what you said or to see any devious meaning in what you said. Earl Voss of the STAR called last night and warned me that his telephone was tapped because of a story he recently did on the Defense Department which caused some trouble. His point seemed to be that Dean Rusk said "intelligence" had failed to alert our government; your statement yesterday in reply to the man who read an Associated Press statement in yesterday's STAR, in Voss's mind, meant that there were various estimates and that maybe an estimate other than a CIA one gave the Cuban army strength, location, etc. I told him that he was present and that there was a recording made of what you said which the State was making available to the working press and I certainly saw no devious meaning

to what you said and I could not get into interpreting your statements, which to me were quite clear.

4. NEW SUBJECT: Robert Whitney of the NEW YORK TIMES telephoned me last night. He said that their competitor, the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, had just hit the streets and Warren Rogers had a story which mentioned "CIA sources." This, he said, was a violation of the agreement of those covering the State Department two-day briefing and he asked if the NEW YORK TIMES might now say that Allen W. Dulles made the statement. I told him that he could not do that; that Mr. Dulles was a guest of the State Department, accepting an invitation to the briefing under certain ground rules that had been accepted by the Press and by Mr. Dulles; and that therefore we in CIA were not in a position to say that these rules now, after the event, could be changed.

5. NEW SUBJECT: Your statements regarding the British Official Secrets Act also have caused considerable interest in the American Press. Richard Dudman of the ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH wants to do a Sunday piece on the fact that there has been considerable thought in high government circles of securing in the United States a modified version of the British Official Secrets Act. He asks if you will furnish the text of the legal opinion you referred to when you said that competent lawyers had said that if the American Congress should pass an act as broad as the British Official Secrets Act, it would be unconstitutional. He also wanted to know if the opinion you referred to was made by the CIA law staff or if it was made by the Attorney General's office. Mr. Dudman was told that there would be no comment and that the opinions would not be made available by CIA.

6. NEW SUBJECT: I had a call from the Associated Press around midnight last night. They said that one of the rebel prisoners appearing on a news


program in Havana had stated that he was recruited in Florida by one "Gomez", an aide of Allen Dulles, and Gomez told him that the Russians had rockets on launchers in Cuba and therefore an attack must be made quickly because of the growing strength. The New York office of the Associated Press wanted to know the name of Mr. Gomez who was an aide to Allen Dulles. I told him we would not make any comment on the Cuban situation, and I know of no aide to Mr. Dulles named Gomez.

7. NEW SUBJECT: John Leacacos, CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER, sends you his "regards and esteem." He listened to you lay it on the line at State yesterday and is glad that you did.

8. NEW SUBJECT: NEWSWEEK asked if they could send a cameraman over to take pictures of our top men, the DCI, the Deputy DCI, the DD/I and the DD/P. I told them that we had glossy prints available and that we discourage outside photographers from coming in. They wanted the pictures today. Miss Milligan, formerly Ernest Lindley's secretary, is coming over today and will pick up the glossy prints.

9. NEW SUBJECT: Jerry Hannifin of TIME called yesterday to say that they had a report from Miami that four CIA people had been fired as a result of the Cuban affair. They were known in Miami as Bender, Carr, Adams, and Charlie.

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Assistant to the Director